



Board Meeting

MINUTES July 31, 2016 4:00 PM (EST) Online Video Conference

CALL TO ORDER	Toni called to the order the Board meeting for the AAGT at about 4:30 PM (EST) on July 31, 2016 at RingCentral Meetings online video conferencing.
ATTENDEES	Dominique Chabre, Ryan Tolman, Mari McGilton, James Battaglia, Toni Gilligan, Deirdre Winter, Robert (Bob) Witchel, Gail Feinstein, Ansel Woldt, Daniel Bak, Dina Miller, Janneke van Beusekom, Adam Kincel, Patricia Tucker, Maryanne Nicholls and Burt Lazarin.
APOLOGIES	Brad Larsen-Sanchez, Alex Schlotterbeck, Mark Reck, and Marlene Blumenthal
CHAIR PERSON	Patricia Tucker
MINUTES PERSON(S)	Ryan Tolman

1. Treasurers Report

Burt

DISCUSSION	<p>Cut and paste treasurer report from 07/29/16 e-mail from Burt:</p> <p>Hi all. These are our financials as of July 29.</p> <p><u>CURRENT STATUS</u></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">in our general account:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$8,905.45</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">in our money market account:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$52,876.04</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">in our PayPal account:</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$508.42</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 20px;">total:</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$62,289.91</td> </tr> </table> <p>Included in the above total is:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">2017 Reserve (28% of to date expenditures)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$2,250.68</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">Regional Development Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$8,715.72</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">Loan to Research Fund</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$1,005.69</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-left: 40px;">Conference account</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>\$26,623.03</u></td> </tr> </table>	in our general account:	\$8,905.45	in our money market account:	\$52,876.04	in our PayPal account:	<u>\$508.42</u>	total:	\$62,289.91	2017 Reserve (28% of to date expenditures)	\$2,250.68	Regional Development Fund	\$8,715.72	Loan to Research Fund	\$1,005.69	Conference account	<u>\$26,623.03</u>
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	<p>leaving encumbered \$23,694.79</p> <p>In the Scholarship Fund: \$18,695.44</p> <p>End of e-mail cut and paste, beginning of Board discussion.</p> <p>Burt notes that the conference account includes about \$10,805 USD from Taormina pre-conference registrations. About half (\$4850) of pre-conference registration funds have been paid out to rent rooms for pre-conference, and there are other expenses, but overall the Board feels the pre-conference will provide a net financial gain. Net financial gains from pre-conference are earmarked for the scholarship fund.</p> <p>There is a ledger line in the e-mail titled “Loan to the Research Fund.” This means that \$1005.69 was borrowed from other AAGT funds towards the 2017 Paris Research Conference (5,000 Euros = \$5672.15 USD). Despite exceeding the funds of the research accounts to meet the needs of the 2017 Paris Research Conference, the Board is optimistic that the Research Fund will receive a net gain due to registration receipts from the 2017 Paris Research Conference.</p> <p>The Board discussed challenges determining the destination account for website Paypal funds applied especially those transactions containing multiple transactions. Currently tabulation has to be done manually, and in the past this process has been automatic. Mari reports that Brad plans to meet with the web developer to address this issue this week. The Board wonders if there is an option available to use a credit card to pay directly on the website and bypass Paypal altogether, and the Board notes that a fallback plan would be desirable if Paypal cannot meet the configuration of the website and Membership needs.</p>	
DECISION	The Board looks forward hearing Brad’s progress towards an online payment system which will meet Membership needs and be less time consuming for the Treasurer and Administrator.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Mari reports Brad is working with the web developer and Paypal this week to streamline the AAGT online webpay services.	Brad, per his current plans.	N/A

2. Taormina Conference 2016

Patricia, Domi, James

<p>DISCUSSION</p>	<p>Presentation Booking: The Board discussed the process of signing up to attend conference presentations. An initial survey to determine attendance estimates may have been misinterpreted as final registrations, and the Board would like to see a clear path forward ASAP to ensure the choices of current and prospective presentation attendance choices are honored. Information gathering is needed for a conclusive path forward. The Board will seek administrative clarification to see if the respondents to the initial survey can be registered to their first choice of presentation attendance. Secondly, should a second call for presentation preference be necessary, the Board wishes to determine if the current system can handle the task of signing up attendees according to first and second choices of presentation attendance.</p> <p>Domi continues to work on the auction fundraiser for the Scholarship Fund, and there was a recent request for donations sent via listserv.</p> <p>James is working on a listserv providing AAGT/EAGT members attending the Taormina Conference opportunities to meet each-other before the conference to create a virtual check-in, similar to the way people would check in at the beginning of a face to face meeting.</p> <p>Listserv members will be invited to post a short bio (a paragraph), and a picture on the listserv. The goal is to make this less of an anonymous situation.</p> <p>As the conference gets closer this listserv could be used to provide up to date information to conference attendees. James plans to invite Board members to lead the way by posting their pictures and biography paragraph to kick off the new listserv.</p> <p>Perhaps themes will emerge, such as similarities and differences in AAGT and EAGT organizations, perhaps some histories and current events in both organizations can encourage co-creation in this newly conceptualized listserv. For example, Patricia has written a brief history of AAGT, and EAGT has also written a short history. The Board offers enthusiastic support for of a joint AAGT/EAGT listserv.</p> <p>The Board is interested in ensuring high and/or low tech communication solutions for Taormina attendees. One option is to use WIFI options for e-mail or instant messaging apps which could be used without cellular phone service.</p> <p>With regard to the mobile phone providers, Deirdre suggests inviting mobile phone providers to send representatives directly to the conference. It can be difficult to find a mobile phone shop in the vicinity in small holiday resorts in Italy. For example, the next Vodafone shop to Taormina is in Catania - 46</p>
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	<p>Km away!</p> <p>Four providers to consider include: TIM (Telecom Italia), Vodafone, Wind and Tre. Perhaps a volunteer can be found to research what is currently the best short-term offer and see if any mobile phone provider has interest in sending a representative directly to the conference.</p> <p>There is a plan to have a bulletin board next to central registration to give and receive notes between attendees.</p> <p>Deirdre notes that language support is planned for the conference, and development of specific support mechanism is underway.</p> <p>The AGM will occur immediately following the Taormina Conference largely due to logistics of the AAGT/EAGT joint conference.</p> <p>The Board plans a Board Member retreat in Taormina. Patricia asks Mari to record a show of hands for Board Members planning to attend.</p>	
DECISION	James will collaborate to develop a virtual check-in listserv prior to the Taormina conference.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
Create a new collaborative EAGT/AAGT Taormina conference listserv.	James	August 15, 2016

3. Other Business

Patricia, Board

DISCUSSION	<p>The Board plans to reach out to current and prospective applicants who would like to host the next conference. Volunteers for the Conference Venue Committee include Dina, Gail, Ansel, Patricia, and Toni. Asheville, North Carolina, USA is mentioned as a venue applicant; a conversation is planned to include venue applicants. The goal is to consider a potential venue which will best support the Membership.</p> <p>This Board Meeting has already run short of time and unfinished agenda items include:</p> <p>Regional Task Force recommendations need to be presented to the Board, via e-mail if necessary.</p> <p>The following agenda items have not been addressed but are noted agenda items:</p> <p>8. Reassessment of peer review process – Gail 9. Scholarship Fund Fundraising Plan – Adam, Patricia</p>
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AAGT: Association for the Advancement of Gestalt Therapy – An International Community

	End at about 5:40pm est.	
DECISION	The Board would like to see the final recommendations of the Regional Task Force.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
The Regional Task Force will e-mail final recommendations to the Board.	Regional Task Force	ASAP
DECISION	The next Conference Venue Committee was formed	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
The Conference Venue Committee will reach out to current and potential venue applicants.	Dina, Gail, Ansel, Patricia, and Toni	Ongoing